REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Date of entry in Register:	06 September 1999
Name of applicant/court:	Secretary for Internal Affairs
Applicant to the Labelling Body:	Not Applicable
Title of Publication:	Csf00007.jpg
Other Known Titles:	Not Stated
Director:	Not Applicable
Producer:	Not Applicable
Publisher:	Not Applicable
Author:	Not Applicable
Format:	Computer Printout
Country of Origin:	Not Stated
Language:	English

Components of film originally examined: Not Applicable.

Feature:	Running time:
Trailers:	Running time:
	Total Running time:

Excision/Alteration: Not Applicable.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display Conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has been given on: Not Applicable.

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SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:

The computer printout entitled *Csf00007.jpg* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The computer printout is a full colour hard copy of the JPEG computer image file of the same name. The printout mainly consists of a colour image incorporating a large colour photograph, a small inset portrait photograph, a title banner reading "Crime Scene In Fetishland", and a caption. The large photograph depicts a scene of a woman's fully naked body bent forward into a bath. She is viewed from the side, and her buttocks and genital area are at the centre of the image. Text incorporated in the image reads "Paula F. (22) – Dead in 1997". The inset picture is suggested to be the dead woman. The caption informs the reader that the woman was subjected to "rape", anal intercourse, and strangulation, and left by the assailant in a position to facilitate easy sexual access.

The classification is due to the manner in which the infliction of serious physical harm is sexualised and formatted for entertainment and the use of persons with a prurient interest in dead bodies, or more specifically murdered females, and the degree to which the depicted victim is degraded and dehumanised by her presentation as a spectacle for prurient purposes

Violence resulting in the woman's death is overtly sexualised by the title banner. The fetish reference directs the viewer to interpret the main image in a sexually stimulating manner. The woman's full nudity further sexualises the scene. Her killing is expressly related to sexual matters in the caption, which includes strong sexual vernacular. The publication overall has an overtly salacious tone. The computer image file format in which the material is stored and presented is also significant, with characteristics best suited to optimise the quality of reproduced photographic images and to facilitate easy transmission and proliferation of the image among similarly oriented individuals.

Referring to New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 considerations, the Classification Office considers that the limit on freedom of expression resulting from this classification is reasonable and demonstrably justified, given the aim of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 of preventing likely injury to the public good.

OFLC Ref: 9900256